GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5221
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2008
CASES OF BLOOD CANCER IN CHILDREN
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a study conducted by the Indian Cancer Society, more than 40,000 cases of blood cancer in children are reported on a yearly basis in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its harmful consequences on children; and

(c) the measures taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to curb this menace?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a): Based on the data collected by Population Based Cancer Registry functioning under Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) during the year 2007 an estimated 13,600 children below the age of 14 years developed blood cancer.

(b): Acute Lymphatic Leukemia (ALL) is a common blood cancer and is very aggressive.However,any blood cancer will prove fatal if not treated in time.The disease increases the risk of infection in children.

(c): The National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) is being implemented with the objectives of primary prevention through health education, secondary prevention through early detection and diagnosis of cancer and strengthening of cancer treatment facilities. In addition, the comprehensive cancer detection and management facilities including cancer testing facilities in respective regions/States are provided by 27 Regional Cancer Centres in different parts of the country. The public awareness about cancer is also being carried out through Electronic and Print Media including telecast of the Programme "Kalyani" on Doordarshan.